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AVIATION AND AIRCRAFT JOURNAL

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DECEMBER 19, 1921

No. 28

LAWRENCE O'DAY
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RALPH H. UPTON
ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

This year is highly gratifying, for the service which is making an excellent showing in the face of great natural difficulties deserves to be equipped with more efficient armaments than those which it now employs.

While the civil air appropriation seems small in comparison with other countries, it should be noted that the government intends to ask for a special appropriation should the bill providing for a Bureau of Civil Aviation, which is backed by the Administration, be passed by Congress.

The Paris Aero Show

THE Paris Aero Show, which is reviewed in part in this issue, indicates some interesting trends due to the large development of French commercial aviation. Probably the most remarkable of these is the trend toward large multi-engined passenger carriers.

Considering the question especially, such a change is not to be wondered at. It does not mean that Naval Aviation is necessarily more important to National Defense than the Army Air Service, but rather that the Navy is at the present time much more in need of mobile air equipment, and of expenditures for the development thereof; then the Army.

The Army Air Service possesses for all emergencies several standard types of military airplanes which are thoroughly up to date and which it could place in production instantly. These types—observation, pursuit, and bombardment aeroplanes—form the majority of the Army Air Service for modern warfare. There still remains to be created some more novel types, such as ground attack, night pursuit and night observation airplanes; but these, while important, will constitute but a small percentage of the fighting air fleet, and their use may be considered in a very secondary way. These types are still in the experimental stage, and the Engineering Division of the Air Service is at present engaged in determining their most desirable features.

The Navy, on the other hand, does not possess by any means such an up-to-date equipment. Its patrol aeroplanes date back to the time of the Armistice, and though they are excellent machines, they cannot be considered as having kept up to modern requirements. By front aviation or even less fortunate is that its equipment is still in a state of flux, a large amount of experimenting being yet required to establish anything like standard types for scouting with the fleet, gun spotting, torpedo dropping, etc. The question is further complicated by the techniques referred to as "deck flying," for while the Navy experts affords a satisfactory solution to the problem of taking off from a ship, the return of the airplane onto the deck of a vessel is still far from being solved. Hence it will be seen that the comparatively large air appropriation requested by the Navy is entirely justified.

That the appropriation for the Air Mail Service should show an increase of one million dollars over that of the current

year is largely gratifying, for this service which is a regular mail service should be equipped with more efficient armaments than those which it now employs.

While the civil air appropriation seems small in comparison with other countries, it should be noted that the government intends to ask for a special appropriation should the bill providing for a Bureau of Civil Aviation, which is backed by the Administration, be passed by Congress.

Another reason for which the French department encourages the creation of multi-engined airplanes is undoubtedly due to its desire to afford the aerial transfer a larger insurance against irregular services. This is most likely the reason why most of these machines are fitted with three or four engines while two-engined versions are hardly represented. It is evident that while a two-engined airplane is used, unlikely to complete a journey on one engine, a three-engined machine would have a pretty good chance of doing so on two engines, and a four-engined airplane has an even better chance of making its destination on three engines. This point is worth serious consideration by all those who are engaged in the study of commercial air services.

Government to Spend \$35,600,000 on Aviation

The annual estimates of Government accumulated expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1 next and ending June 30, 1923, just submitted to Congress by President Harding, provide for the appropriation of \$85,000,000. This compares with \$85,183,431 appropriated for aviation during the current fiscal year.

The sum so distributed among the aviation bureaus of the Army and the Navy and to the Air Mail Service of the Post Office Department. The estimates do not provide for an appropriation for the proposed Bureau of Aeronautics of the Department of Commerce, which has received the approval of President Harding and which will be acted on Congress. This appropriation will be made when the proposed bureau is established.

The Bureau of Aeronautics of the Navy Department gets the bulk of the total appropriation requested, this sum being \$17,000,000 for the coming fiscal year, as compared with \$33,453,410 provided for the current year. The Air Service of the United States Army is allowed \$20,000,000 in the budget, while the Bureau of Navigation is allowed \$20,000,000 for the current year. In addition to the \$120,000,000 which was done last year, \$1,280,000 is allowed for accelerated aviation pay, \$0,500,000 for officers and \$300,000 for enlisted men.

An amount of about \$1,000,000 is proposed for the Air Mail Service of the Post Office Department, to be maintained between New York City and San Francisco, by way of Chicago and Omaha. The estimate for appropriations for the next fiscal year are \$1,200,000 as compared with \$1,250,000 for the current year. The additional \$50,000 is proposed that an additional \$500,000 be spent on transoceanic routes by airplane in future years.

The money provided for the Army Air Service is less than half as much as was appropriated during the Government fiscal year ended June 30 last, which was \$23,000,730.65. Here is a tabulation of the money available for the Army flying organization, showing the estimate for appropriations for the fiscal year 1922 and the estimate of expenditures for the current fiscal year, or that ended with June 1922.

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GENERAL AND EXPENSES	ESTIMATED 1964	ESTIMATED 1972
Personal services other than experimental and research	\$ 357,112	\$ 1,040,000
Wages	2,240,900	5,800,000
Personal services, experimental and research		
Wages	378,212	1,230,000
Salaries	4,142,070	10,000,000
Other operating expenses		
Fees for services	4,142,070	4,000,000
Travel, allowances and expenses		
Meals, lodgings, travel, telephone and other general expenses	250,000	500,000
Equipment		
Purchase, leasehold, rental and capital equipment	6,000,000	8,000,000
Depreciation and amortization		
Maintenance, repair and replacement of Bureau equipment	250,000	500,000
Expenditure of Bureau		
Experimental and research, including pay and expenses of citizens employed	4,000,000	4,000,000
Other		
Fees for experiments performed in connection with personal services	2,000,000	2,000,000
Other fees	8,000,000	8,000,000
Total personal services	\$1,040,000	\$4,000,000
Less personal services expended in connection with other funds	(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)
Net personal services	\$1,040,000	\$4,000,000

Provision for the extension of armament facilities throughout the United States is sustained as in view of the proposed bill, to authorize the Secretary of War that "whatever a man's ability, means, capital, organization or corporation domestic or foreign, he may have, either in favor of the United States or otherwise, to accept such damages when in his judgment the interests of the national defense will be promoted thereby, to establish, maintain and operate arsenals under such conditions as he may prescribe, facilities for drydocks, including docks, barges, gun plants and other installations, as may be necessary for the national defense."

Below is a detailed table showing the money asked for the Bureau of Aeronautics of the Navy Department:

關於此問題的討論

ESTIMATED 2002	ESTIMATE 1999
\$ 196,000	\$ 197,000
-0-	-0-
88,000	88,000
473,000	473,000
3,124,860	3,124,860
6,891,430	6,877,000
548,000	547,000
249,320	249,320
 \$ 8,114,550	 \$ 8,174,391
 500,000	 5,171,000
-0-	-0-
1,000,000	1,000,000

112-Statement for 1922 due to the Secretary of the State of Assam
and the reader to the terms of reference.
113-Particulars of statement 112.
114-Particulars of statement 113.
115-Particulars of statement 114.
116-Particulars of statement 115.

British Air Transport Expansion

A recent article in the London Times states that four air-
plane transport schemes have now been officially approved
under the revised scale of subsidies which the Air Ministry is
to shortly implement on the termination of the present less-
er power agreement.

Two of the subengines entail the collaboration between London and Paris of the existing London and Stanley-Pugs service; the third—new London to Paris express service—is to be conducted by de Havilland aircraft, as arranged with the Ministry which will have the aid of Col. Gen. F. G. C. Pugsley, who has been engaged in the development of the new aircraft. The first flight of the late August line during its progressive phase of operation on the system of 1926. His operation of the new de Havilland machines, which carry a pilot and 12 passengers at more than 300 m.p.h. with the power of one engine, will be under the direction of Mr. H. G. D. G. B. of the Meteor Lines motor, so assisted with such information as may be required by the London and Stanley-Pugs service, which will be obtained by means of wireless communication between London and Brussels. At present a service is operated on this route by the Belgian state-owned R.E.T.A.

The hope is entertained that by next Spring there will be a British service flying between London and Amsterdam, a route very important because of the Northern Europe connections which it opens up. At present it is encouraged by the state assisted Dutch Royal Air Line, which has had a most encouraging season, and is well supported by its government in its plans for next year.

Flighting an fog is the greatest headache in keeping a regular schedule, but that has been partially overcome by radio piloting. If they can see the ground from 200 ft., planes can be brought in. And if they have at least one pilot who can fly in a fog and have informed the pilot by radio when to cut off his engine and come down. The landing in this case was successfully made, but there is still much to do in experimental work in this line.

The Seventh Paris Aero Show

The seventh competition of aerial navigation held at the Grand Palais d'Exposition during the last two weeks of November was as before the leading position France has achieved in commercial aviation, clearly devoted to road and air transport. Commercial aviation of all types and most predominated, and the large number of military aeroplanes and passenger-carrying was a feature of the meeting. Bleriot, Béchereau, Caudron, Farman, Hanriot and Peugeot each exhibited machines driven by several engines, while Farman had an exhibit two biplanes driven by one engine and one with twin engines, and Béchereau showed a four-engined cabin flying boat.

single engined airplanes of French manufacture were shown by Béniard, Brininstool, Caudron, Farman, Hanriot, Levasseur, Latécoère, Lioré & Olivier, Morane-Saulnier, Sopwith-Deperé, Potez, Staélhenssen, S.E.C.M., and Tandem. Foreign aircraft industries were represented by Ansaldo, Fokker and Rum. The only amphibians at the show was exhibited by the FBA company.

Perhaps the most noteworthy engineering feature of the show was the extensive use of metal construction. Brigand, Emond, Farnam, Glensford, LaFosse, Loring & Oliver, and Peter exhibiting airplanes either entirely or partly built of metal. Another noteworthy point about this show was the total absence of fresh-killed game, a thing which could not be said about previous exhibitions.

The most unusual exhibit was the Paterna-Pozuelo holotype, around which much interest centered owing to the fact that the machine had left the ground a few weeks previously at Barcelona, Spain.

...is a brief description of the ad-

This well known biplane has exhibited an Avro 6000 A30PT radio machine fitted with the 380 hp. Fiat engine. This type is similar in appearance to the A30AC, but carries six passengers besides the pilot.

Index des Manuskriptes

This new French aircraft firm showed on its stand a Vickers-Voisin Commercial fitted with two 450 hp Nipper "Tides". Except for the larger horsepower this machine is practically identical with the passenger carriar which appeared in 1915, and which at its time was an adaptation of the Vickers-Voisin bomber produced in 1916.

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The machine which attracted the greatest attention on that stand, and perhaps in the whole show, was the Super 4G four-engined cargo airplane. This machine, which like all Super 4s is of Avro's classic design, has a maximum load of 20,000 pounds and a range of 3,000 miles. It is powered by four Pratt & Whitney R-2820-14 cylinder engines, each of 2,250 h.p. early type Hispano-Suiza engines. The engines are mounted in two pairs on the lower wings, and drive tandem propellers.

As may be seen from Fig. 1, the entire machine is streamlined down to the last inch, which gives it a very pleasing appearance, while at the same time it need reduce parasite resistance to the lowest possible limit. The machine, as shown in Fig. 1, has a maximum speed of 100 miles per hour, not only apparent in the lines of the fuselage and of the stabilizers, but also in the symmetry of wind work occurring between the wings. The manner in which the wings are attached to the fuselage and connected between themselves by single streamlined I-section and similar struts, affords a lesson which many a designer might ponder over with advantage. Not less interesting is the mounting of stream-lined fins both on the upper wings, where they are mounted in such a way as to give them the effect of ailerons. M. H. Holman has commented on the Rynd 30-minute radio machine as well proven its worth during half a year of operation on the Paris-London and Paris-Warsaw air lines.

FIG. 1. BRASSO HEAD AT FARNHAM CARRERS. FIG. 2. BRASSO
1943 TWO-PAUNA FORTRESS. FIG. 3 BRASSO HS TWO-
BRASSER FALCON HORSE
Photo Copyright © Department
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Aft of the control cockpit, and exactly between the seats of the tractive and pusher, is situated the passenger cabin which seats fifteen persons. To accommodate such a large number within the set limit of 1,000 ft. and 1,000 kg., the interior has been so planned that the various passenger heads will have less influence on the balance of the machine. A passage way runs on one side of the seats through the cabin, and leads forward to the control and navigation cockpit, while aft it opens into a cockpit seating two persons. The latter provision has been made to assist in making possible a greater flying time in the open air, the expense of the air having shown that there exists a distinct demand for such a provision.

The wings have the characteristic form of the post-war Spads, in that the upper wings are swept back and staggered forward over the lower wings, which have straight edges in plan. This arrangement, besides affording some aerodynamic advantages, is particularly favorable from the viewpoint of visibility. The construction of the wings follows straight spur and rib proportions.

The landing gear consists of four wheels, carried by a single axle in V-shaped cradle which supports each wheel to assist the aerodynamical properties of the entire struts that they almost seem interlocking. The arrangement of the landing gear is strongly reminiscent of that found on the Curtiss Eagle, marking the stressed bearing which covers the whole.

The tail unit does not call for special comment except that the tail plane incorporates a variable incidence gear which is controlled by the pilot from the cockpit.

The engine nacelles are rapidly removed by removing the wings by unscrewing a few nuts.

The Spad 45 has been developed to satisfy the requirements of the French civil air department for a passenger carrier to be used on short-haul air lines. The machine is to be operated under regulation No. 100, which is identical with German Part and Constantine.

Other French authorities sustained the Spad 45 as their solo machine, which is identical with the Spad 33 except that it has a 275 kg. Lorraine-Dietrich engine, and the Read 36 two-cylinder radial motor, which is fitted with an 80 kg. Le Rhône.

ESSEX BRIQUET

The veteran aeronautical firm, which has specialized in all types of aircraft since 1909, exhibited the flying boat of the Levant 21, a long-distance flying boat, carried with a enclosed engine room. The power plant consists of four 220 hp Belpont-Bugatti eight cylinder vertical engines, each driving through an anti-torque counter-shaft gear a single tailless propeller. The gear was descended as detail in AVIATION and AIRSHIP JOURNAL a year and a half ago. The two-cylinder radial group have presented for twenty months, and they are believed to have already terminated, hence the appearance of the complete machine may be expected before long. The entire machine is built of sheet brass. Some of its constructional features are shown in the accompanying line drawings (A).

Another interesting Belgian exhibit was the Type 12AB two-seater flying boat with a 450 hp "Breguet" Breguet-Haguenau engine, which is shown in detail in Fig. 2 with the wing framing partly uncovered. With the exception of the wings and of the portion of the fuselage aft of the horizontal stabilizer, which are fabric covered, the machine is covered with sheet brass. Hence again the good streamline of the fuselage is noticeable, and note also the triple seat of a forward section, occurs on either side of the fuselage. The following dimensions were given: span 36 ft. 8 in., weight empty 3,000 kg., weight loaded 4,200 kg. The machine has not yet been tested, but its designed performance is a maximum speed of 142 m.p.h., a speed of 120 m.p.h. at 23,000 ft., and a ceiling of 26,400 ft.

On the same stand a Breguet 14T cabin machine, the type so successfully used on the Paris-London route, was shown fitted with shrouds, while another machine of this type was exhibited equipped as an ambulance.

The firm of Marcel Besson is at present probably the largest producer of aircraft engines in France, and the Besson 1000, a radial engine, is engaged in airplane construction. The Besson 1000 has a three-bladed propeller and a single-seat flying boat and the hull of a four-engined seaplane flying boat which is to accommodate twenty passengers.

The model B10 (Fig. 3) is closely reminiscent for the form of its wings which decrease in span and in chord as it moves upward, and for the fact that it is a tractor. Although the Besson B10 has not the slightest resemblance with its famous tractor biplane host, the successful operation of the latter has doubtless had a great influence on the designer in creation of such a type as Besson. And here it may be mentioned that although a tractor flying boat will seem to many of our readers a great novelty, the idea is far from new, for Glenn H. Curtiss built in 1912 the Harold F. Myrick a tractor biplane flying boat which flew quite satisfactorily the design being further developed. The model B10 is a fine old plane, and its simplicity and economy of construction are to be deplored. The main attribute of the design of both the Besson and the Curtiss is the absence of horizontal stabilizers, and it would surprise most nearly like a biplane machine on such a plan as would be ideal for training purposes. Land planes could do it without requiring much special training.

The internal frame of the Besson B10 consists of a series which forms an front elevation on M, in the middle which is mounted the streamlined engine nacelle. Four struts which form the nose gear are held. The engine is a 110 hp Clerget rotary, and the front and oil tanks are mounted behind the engine on the nacelle.

Antennas are fitted to the lower wings only. The wings on the power plant are mounted on a bed of sheet brass, built up around the propeller with three-ply matting.

The wing area is 220 sq. m., and the wing loading is about 18.3 sq. m. The high speed is 80 m.p.h.

The hull of the Besson commercial biplane flying boat is built back to satisfy in the first place the requirements of armament, as it is intended for service in the Middle Eastern front. For this reason the hull is of very strong construction, the plates being of brass. The hull has been riveted to struts and ribs, and although its form has been chosen with the particular view of solving heavy sea trials difficulty, special care has also been taken to insure a quiet take-off.

It is interesting to note that the control cockpit and its cabin form a straitly distanced superstructure. To facilitate the landing gear, the superstructure is raised to the level of the tail by a further long strut passing through the side bags. Dual control is fitted, together with a rudder incidence gear operating the tail plane. The elevator is balanced using its full span by pivoting it off of its cutting edge, for which reason it is straitly separate from the tail plane.

The wings of the Besson sea-going flying boat are of the monoplane form illustrated in the accompanying line drawing. Here again the horizontal stabilizers have been dispensed with. It was realized that a nose gear was an addition to, instead of a stout hull, the powered engine weight, and this meant either tandem wings or a quadriplane form. M. Besson preferred the latter solution as having better aerodynamic properties, not only as an account of its absence of interference, but also because it simplified the problem of stabilizing the wings by a single set of struts of relatively small diameter, and the tail plane is balanced right phosphorus, and is particularly spacious and comfortable. A windows is also provided.

The characteristics of the Besson 2 are as follows: span 72 ft. 7 in., overall length 46 ft. 10 in., wing area 709 sq. m., weight empty 3,050 kg., weight loaded 4,275 kg., pay load 3,972 kg.

Ross Goudron, who built the first twin engined seaplane which was used for the French air service on the river Seine, exhibited a three-engined passenger carrier and a single-seat flying boat.

The three-engined machine, model CGS, represents an attempt to eliminate forced landings due to engine failure in spite of more than passenger carrying capacity, with an average speed of 100 m.p.h. The CGS has a 1,000 hp Hispano-Suiza engine, and the folded boat resistance and the arrangement of seats is worth while reference to be found out through actual operation.

The CGS, which is shown in Fig. 4, carries six passengers in a closed cabin, and a crew of two in a control cockpit situated above the rear of the engine. The power plant is composed of three 140 hp Hispano-Suiza engines driving three propellers which are mounted one in the nose of the machine, and one each on the rear. In the case of the latter no special effort seems to have been made toward streamlining, as no wing nacelles are fitted, although in other respects the CGS is fairly well streamlined and represents an undoubted advance on previous Goudron products.

Generally speaking this machine does not embody any particularly novel features, although the landing gear differs from standard practice in that it has broad wheel mudguards on the nose of the machine, evidently to protect the revised tractor against possible impact in a rough landing. The landing gear proper consists of two twin-wheeled units with a slot in between them, and the rear unit is of the Cessna type. The span is 21 m. and the overall length 20 ft. 9 in., maximum height 12 ft. 80 in., wing area 1,122 sq. m., weight empty 4,625 kg., weight loaded 7,490 kg. The fuel supply is sufficient for a 500-mile flight at 50 m.p.h.

The single-engined biplane exhibited by Goudron is the model CGS 1, an open cockpit tractor biplane fitted with a 120 hp Hispano-Suiza engine, and the power plant is built in a slot with dual control if desired. This type is used for training in the Goudron school, but it has also been used with success in extended cross country flights. First Prize was won with this machine, last August, in a circuit flight of 3,000 miles around Paris in competition for the Michelin Cup.

The characteristics of the CGS 1 are as follows: span 31 ft. 4 in., overall length 21 ft. 4 in., wing area 709 sq. m., weight empty 2,120 kg., weight loaded 3,000 kg., weight loaded 3,600 kg.

ERAND

This firm, which is a pioneer in aircraft construction, although it possesses considerable practical experience from the operation of the Bourges-Toulon-Montpelier air line, exhibits a biplane flying boat which is intended for the same purpose as the machine which is intended for the new Toulouse-Marseille air line. The machine was designed by M. Berthaud, chief engineer of Aéro-Transport Erand, and is known as PATMA 2.

The PATMA 2 (Fig. 2) has distinctive wings of decreasing thickness and chord, these form in plan being trapezoidal. No external bracing occurs either on the wings or on the tail plane. The power plant is composed of two 200 hp Hispano-Suiza engines which are carried in a single nacelle on either side of the fuselage, and the nacelle is balanced. The cabin accommodates eight passengers, and is particularly spacious and comfortable. A window is also provided.

The characteristics of the PATMA 2 are as follows: span 72 ft. 7 in., overall length 46 ft. 10 in., wing area 709 sq. m., weight empty 3,050 kg., weight loaded 4,275 kg., pay load 3,972 kg.

M. & F. Farman

The exhibit of the Farman brothers included a four-engined sight biplane, a twin engined biplane derived from the "Goliath," a torpedo carrier, a metal two-seater observation machine, and a Farman "Spout."

The four-engined sight biplane is immediately recognizable from its four 170 hp Lorraine-Dietrich engines, as disposed in two nacelles, and driven by sets of tandem propellers. The landing gear is very spacious, and is composed of three sets

of twin wheels, two of which occur under the engine while the third pair is mounted under the nose. In view of the fact that this machine weighs 22,500 lb. fully loaded, such a primitive landing gear is understandable.

The three-engined machine, model CGS, represents an attempt to eliminate forced landings due to engine failure in spite of more than passenger carrying capacity, with an average speed of 100 m.p.h. The CGS has a 1,000 hp Hispano-Suiza engine, and the folded boat resistance and the arrangement of seats is worth while reference to be found out through actual operation.

Following are the characteristics of the Farman four-engined night bomber: span 171 ft. 0 in., overall length 22 ft. 7 in., maximum height 24 ft. 9 in., wing area 2,049 sq. m., weight empty 11,050 lb., weight loaded 22,500 lb., top speed 160 m.p.h., theoretical ceiling 18,000 ft.

The Farman biplane carrier biplane is practically identical with the Goliath 20-passenger seaplane, save for the suppression of the cabin, and the consequent decrease in height of the engine, on which gas tanks are mounted. The Farman biplane carrier is a two-seater tractor biplane fitted with a 450 hp Hispano-Suiza. It has a certain family resemblance with the Goliath, a truss which is also very much



FIG. 4. GOUARD CGS PASSENGER CARRIER. FIG. 5. NEARBY 20/2 PASSENGER CARRIER. FIG. 6. TWINPIECE SPOT AIRPLANE.

Photo International and Wide World

Trials of Helium Filled Airship C-7

The U. S. Navy's new rigid airship C-7 is the first lighter-than-air craft in the world to make a flight satisfied with helium gas.

The airship left the Naval Air Station at Hampton Roads, Virginia, at 8:27 a.m. in arriving at Anacostia at 10:20 a.m. after going over the city. On her return trip the ship, the *Navy Annex*, was at 12:05 p.m. again circling the city, and reaching Anacostia Roads at 4:30 p.m. The flight was made without benefit of any land.

From the first, though unsatisfactory flights of about forty-five minutes were made, followed by a second flight of about fifteen minutes duration. The performance of the airship on both these flights was excellent.

The crew for the initial flight was as follows: Lieutenant Commander Zachary Landersenne, U. S. N., commanding officer; Lieutenant R. F. Wood, altitude pilot; Lieutenant A. T. Howell, time pilot; Chief Machinist Mate Pierre, engineer.

During the three flights of the airship C-7, no helium valve was lost in operation or leaking.

Advantages of Helium

The great advantage of helium gas over hydrogen is that it is not liable to explosions due to static or electric connections, or from sparks due to sparks from the exhaust of the engine. Probably the greatest disadvantage in the use of helium is its cost of production, its availability and its long life. Hydrogen costs about \$1.00 per cubic foot, while 100 per cent purity and under standard atmospheric conditions has a buoyancy of 70 lb. per 3900 cu. ft. as displayed, while helium under similar conditions has 54.4 lb. per cu. ft. When lifting gas has lost purity and consequently lift an amount of difference with it can be put through a regeneration process and recovered.

The Navy maintains a helium plant at Fort Wright, Tex., where helium is extracted from natural gas by compressors or systems. It is required that a plant of this character be located where there is an abundance of gas and also a sufficient source of water for cooling the numerous compressors. The natural gas, after passing through this plant, becomes a pressurized stream which is then directed into tanks which return the gas necessary for compressed air. The air which is first passed through these which remove carbon dioxide, is then liquefied, leaving nitrogen and helium gases which are drawn off and further compressed thereby separating the nitrogen and leaving the helium which draws off and compressed into cylinders and placed in storage for shipment.

New Airship Types

The Navy has been operating single-engined dirigibles mostly for training purposes, the requirements for these small airships being capacities ranging from 45,000 to 65,000 cu. ft. with dimensions roughly of 162 ft. in length and maximum diameter of 28 ft., the height of the ships being 48 ft. These small types merit a crew of three men, machine gun or bombs being carried, and a maximum speed of 30 m.p.h. up to forty-five Class B ships a distance of 927 miles, class C ships 672 miles and class D ships 1357 miles.

The Class C ships are being improved and especially reliable for patrol and escort work. Their dimensions are, length, 192 ft.; maximum diameter of envelope 45 ft. 9 in.; maximum height 50 ft. 2 in.; maximum width, 28 ft. 11.2 in. The seaplane has a crew of four men, machine gun or bombs being carried ready to fly at 7,044 lbs. between the main gas tanks and the engine compartment consisting of one, gasoline, oil, carburetor, compressor, radio, fuel, drinking water, latrines, bunks, gear, etc. The 381,980 cu. ft. capacity gives a gross lift for pure helium of 11,650 lbs., making 350 lbs. of lift available for the above mentioned dispensable equipment as against 6,768 lbs. with a hydrogen gas supply.

Class C seaplane have two engine replaceable developing 125 horsepower at full speed giving the ship a speed of 55 m.p.h.; at half power the ship consumes 234 lbs. of fuel per hour.

At a running speed of about 45 m.p.h. this ship has a range of 2250 miles. They are designed with multi-cell helium bags capable of holding 100,000 cu. ft. of gas.

Next airships planned up to the altitude of 8,000 ft. will be larger, more powerful, and photographic flights, their primary military value has been as antisubmarine warfare. It is expected that with the advent of rigid airships into the Navy the field of operations will be greatly broadened in extreme long range reconnaissance activities. It is probable also that airships will prove themselves in high altitude bombing and weather work. Due to an error, it is believed, never over one spot they are extremely well fitted for the work at low level bombing, feasting on surface mines and destroying them.

Naval Policy of Airships

The airship's greatest value to the Allies during the past war was in convoy work. It was particularly noticeable that a submarine would not attack a convoy that was escorted by airships. The value depended not so much on those able to drop a minimum amount to its attack on the convoy as on the majority of the ships' load being destroyed in airships which would result in the destruction of the submarine by depth charges thrown either the airship or the surface escort. An advantage of airships over other types of aircraft is their ability to fly safely in fog, rain, or at night. In fact, the only way to fly safely in fog or rain is to land on a flat surface, as the average driver would try to handle at night or in a fog due to the extreme difficulty of seeing their great weakness in the stability of the atmosphere.

Communication between airship and shore stations is maintained by having pigeons and radio. The radio equipment is used to aid navigation or that an airship can locate itself by radio compass bearings taken aboard the ship, or by getting signals from shore stations.

Class C seaplane carries both altitude and directional pilots. The directional pilot is placed in the front cockpit and steers the steering wheel, while the altitude pilot sits in the second cockpit in the fuselage and operates the gas and air valves and engine throttles. The machine gun and bombs operate through the rear cockpit. On long voyages these would be placed in separate sections of the hull, and all unnecessary equipment like the particular flight equipment removed for ballast. The ballast may be surplus gasoline or water. When water or gasoline is not discharged for ballast, sand is used. Ballast is only used for ballast in case of extreme emergency.

Flying in the Philippines

Commenting on the varied character of the country encountered by the airships pilot on duty in the Philippines, the Commanding Officer of Clark Field, Camp Stotsenberg, Pasayanga, P. I. states that flying throughout the islands is hazardous away from the seaports. "The abundance of rock piles, the uneven and hilly congested coastline, constitute in preventing but two routes which connect the interior of the islands." While on most sea sections in the States no very great hazard is encountered through emergency landings on the Pacific, the local pilots are deeply troubled to overcome the necessities of terrain. So far there is no record of a forced landing made in a rice field, but it is believed the heavy loads and small engines would not permit a plane down than a paddie. While in the opinion of the pilot, it is to note the seemingly endless ledges which are little, if at all, known to white men. The peak of Mt. Pinatubo, approximately 13 miles outside of Clark Field, is used as an accessible, the sides of the mountain being sheer or extremely precipitous and the approaches heavily obstructed by tropical vegetation. It is estimated that the Mt. Pinatubo would be inferior to the region which does not add to our enthusiasm for exploring too far inland as that direction."

Class C seaplane have two engine replaceable developing 125 horsepower at full speed giving the ship a speed of 55 m.p.h.; at half power the ship consumes 234 lbs. of fuel per hour.

Naval Aviation*

Rear Admiral Wm. A. Moffett

Chief of Bureau of Aeronautics

spotting, combat, torpedo and bombing, and long balloon squadrons.

As a result of competition among the aircraft manufacturers of the United States a type of plane suitable for spotting work is being developed, the award having been made to the winner of this competition, the Dayton Wright Co., and they are now engaged in producing the first planes of this type. To date none have been delivered.

The Farman airplane rate held in November, 1929, was participated in by airplanes entered by the Army and Navy and it was won by an Army plane fitted with a 600-horsepower engine.

The race for the Pulitzer trophy set forth and the fact, however, that engines, and especially the Pratt & Whitney, were used, led to the fact that the Department has adopted the policy that airplanes racing while not of military value in itself, do give technical experience in subjected aerial material, especially power plants, to conditions of maximum severity.

For the Pulitzer race of November, 1929, the Army and Navy had intended to enter the fastest planes in each service, but due to the limited appropriations and the economy program, no entries were made directly by the two services. However, it was arranged by the Army and by the Navy to loan to contractors planes which had been built by them for this race for the purpose of entering them in the contractor's name and at the risk and expense. The rate of speed was set by the Navy, and the Army, to conform to the rate established with the 600 hp. engine and showed a higher speed than the 600 hp. plane which was the last year's race. This indicates very satisfactory progress in aerodynamic design in the past year. The reliability of the planes taking part in the race was better than the year before less will leave room for improvement.

The course of developing a means for launching planes from warships while under way or at anchor, which would do away with the objections to the platforms now installed on the guns, has been undertaken and further development of the catapult, as originally suggested by Capt. W. L. Chambers, United States Navy, is in progress and appears to offer a solution to many of the difficulties associated with the carrier problem.

The past year witnessed the successful completion of the new catapult design for launching seaplanes or seaplanes from ships of the fleet. This catapult was a development of the catapult that was installed on the North Carolina class of vessels before the war, but has been refined and simplified and reduced to a small track built into a transom base. Seaplane flights have been made with this catapult using standard carrier techniques.

The significance of the catapult development lies in the fact that it is now possible to provide ships of the fleet with fighting seaplanes as an auxiliary to the means of bombing aircraft. The best defense from aerial bombs is considered to be the small fighting airplane which can take off and land at a short distance from the ship, and which can get down to the water quickly which will be necessary due to evasive tactics of the combat type.

The vessels U. S. S. *Shawland*, U. S. S. *Alexandria*, U. S. S. *Tuscaloosa*, U. S. S. *McLellan*, U. S. S. *Ramsey*, U. S. S. *Trotter*, and two submarine chasers which were recently converted and adapted to serve as catapult bases for ships which have been converted from aircraft carriers will be gradually replaced by ships which have been converted especially for this purpose. Among these is being converted the U. S. S. *Wright* a former type *Huntington* Board vessel, for use as a carrier and lighter than air carrier. The work on this ship is rapidly nearing completion and it is expected that it will be commissioned and assigned to the fleet some time this fall.

* From the Annual Report of the Secretary of the Navy.

The U. S. S. Langley, ex-Jupiter, which is being converted as an experimental carrier, has been somewhat delayed owing to the fact that the contractor has been unable to meet the dates to which he originally agreed. However, it is expected that the ship will be delivered to the Navy by the end of the year. The Langley will afford the opportunity of carrying out and for solving the various problems of launching and flying aircraft from a ship at sea, the study and handling of aircraft, and all of the various problems that are necessary in order to design a proper aircraft carrier. Two modern carriers have been requested of Congress.

Lighthouses for

Definite progress has been made toward the completion of the new ship No. 351 under construction at the Naval Aircraft Factory in Philadelphia, and the erection of this ship will take place at the naval air station, Lakehurst, N. J., where the vessel's launch gear shrouds have been practically completed.

An extensive program of research and development in soaring flight equipment has been carried out almost at the same time as the aircraft development work, and has been carried at Lakehurst, N. J. The success of the soaring work will facilitate practically and economically the handling and operation of dirigibles and increase their field of usefulness, as the weather limitations attendant upon operation from land are the expense connected with the construction of these long sheds for the most part eliminated.

Personnel, both officers and men, have been trained at Hendon, England, in rapid aerial navigation. The inevitable result which overtook the No. 35 (228-2) in 1920 retarded the Navy's leadership program, and the service has suffered an inestimable loss in spiritual prestige.

The history of the number 35 (228-2) is briefly as follows: In the summer of 1918 an agreement was reached between the Navy Department and the Air Ministry that the United States would supply the British Government the partially completed aerial cruiser, the American aircraft of 200,000 miles and an overall total loss to this service which would never be recouped. The two governments would jointly bear the loss on an equal basis.

The ship was completed in June, 1921, and during her fourth trial, on Aug. 24, 1921, prior to her acceptance by the United States, took off two men and fell, a total loss, into the Hudson River, off New York City. There were 42 persons on board, of whom 37 were Americans. There were 3 survivors, one of whom was an American.

The court of inquiry opened by the British Air Ministry found that the cause of the accident was the fatigue of the structure in the rear of the after engine cars when being subjected to rapid and violent tests at a speed of 45 to 50 miles per hour. Another cause was with a quick interval was being used, which caused the longitudinal stresses to exceed the limit of the hull, due to the swing of the ship. The ship broke in two portions and the forward portion sought first at the firemen at the moment of or shortly after separation. The fire quickly originated in a spark from the electric leads which became ignited through the immediate vicinity of the after engine cars in the position of the stern. An all source of electrical machinery operating on forward power to the stern portion was affected, as the electric leads in the latter portion became dead immediately. The fracture took place. The fire in the forward portion spread rapidly, due to the presence of escaping gasoline in the hold. An explosive fuel, which led to the collapse of the structure and the forward portion of the ship, exploded. A second explosion took place when the forward portion reached the Hudson, while the after portion descended comparatively slowly but did not catch fire. Four of the 42 survivors were in that portion and were rescued unscathed.

The No. 35 was the largest rigid airship ever built, and her characteristics were as follows: One motor, 3,250,000 cu. ft. length over all, 600 ft.; diameter, 80.5 ft.; gross tonnage, 30 tons; useful load, 10 tons; total load, 100 tons; 2,200 hp. motorized; fuel, seven 200-lb. tanks; total weight, 1,400 lb. power, 500 h.p.; approximate endurance, full power, 5,000 miles, 75 hr.; approximate endurance, half power, 8,000 miles, 75 hr.

The non-rigid airships have been confined to transoceanic per-

manent and experimental development work in order to perfect the type. Two thousand two hundred and twenty-three hours of flying, or approximately 180,000 miles, have been flown toward the accomplishment of the above. The biplane has under construction a new design of this type of aircraft.

Research with kite balloons, as the Atlantic and Pacific flights, have been continued in a view to determining their usefulness and the methods of their application on the fleet. A total of 1,200 flights have been made.

The U. S. S. Wright will be shortly commissioned as a lighter-than-air and heavier-than-air tender for the fleet, and will be provided with kite balloons. This vessel is constructed with a kite balloon well and equipped with a hydrogen generating plant.

Tests will be conducted in the near future on an enlarged and improved type of kite balloon of 50,000 cu. ft. gas capacity.

The Navy entered a balloon in the national balloon race held at Birmingham, Ala., on Sept. 26, 1920.

The balloon pilot at Fort Worth, Tex., has been placed on a production basis, and progress is being made in the development of the type of the balloon. A mounted gun of the C class is being fitted with a gas cylinder, 100 cu. ft., at Hampton Roads, and a practical demonstration of the use of this gun will shortly be made. This will be the first example that has ever been equipped with an inert gas.

Racing and Control of Gliders

Control and control of gliders by aircraft has been conducted in the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets. In the Atlantic Fleet the practice has been carried on from the F-5L type flying boats and in the Pacific from the P-2 flying boats, and the results obtained have been very satisfactory.

Photography

The past year has seen one of training and development as the work of aerial photography. During that time sufficient men have been trained in aerial photography to man all service stations and bases, and additional men have been trained in motion-picture photography.

The development of a plane camera for photostatic work has been undertaken, and a plane of this type will be ready for delivery this coming fall.

The projects of a large nature during the year have been a photographic section of the construction of a photostatic map of the Mississippi Delta, for the Commission on Navigation, and the photographic mapping of the naval reservation at Quantico Bay for the Hydrographic Office. Experimental work in connection with the rapid development of photostatic and the actual development of photostatic in planes, accurate and a standardized system of photostatic mapping, has been undertaken, with success.

The work of aerial photography in determining the results of war has been undertaken and found of great assistance to the office of War, especially in determining accurately the results of aerial bombardment.

There has been a constantly increasing demand for aerial photography, not only by the Bureau of the Navy but by other departments of the Government, such as the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Army Engineers, Interior Department, Department of Commerce, etc.

(See "Aerials.")

Aerobatic Contest, Omaha Meet

We are informed by the Lincoln Aircraft Corp. that the aerobatic contest at the No. 14, 1923, issue of the American Auto-Aircraft Journal, at the Lincoln, Neb., air meet, was won by the Lincoln team, the Lincoln team, consisting of, as sold word was by a Lord "Swallow" piloted by Eddie Smith of Grand Island, Neb.

As a matter of fact, at the time the newspaper record was held the Lincoln airplane participated in the 100-mile distance race, in which it finished second, achieving a speed lead of 567 ft. for a total fastest weight of 550 lb.

School of Aerodynamics, Research University

A school of aerodynamics, known as the Research University, located at Langley Field, Va., on Nov. 15, was opened for both research purposes and production courses under leading experts of the government. L. D. Schenck, consulting engineer of the Information Group of the Air Service, has been added as instructor in aviation engines and has worked out the course in this subject for correspondence students. Mr. Seymour has had unusual technical experience for his age, both in this country and in France. Students are given very practical and theoretical training in the basic type of engines now manufactured. The course has appealed to a large number of enthusiastic mechanics who desire to study higher types of engines that are now used in automobiles.

Richard A. Smith, B.S., R.E., aeronautical engineer, in charge of the Research Laboratory, U. S. Naval Aircraft, has assumed the professorial course in aircraft metals, and is working on the copper and correcting the papers for correspondence students. This is a fundamental course of a very thorough character, not nearly given on ground classes in aviation, and is fundamental in all training in aviation.

Charles H. Barnes, assistant general superintendent of the Research and Material Department, has charge of the aircraft structures, and is working on the principles of aircraft structures, aircraft construction. Mr. Barnes has charge of the basic type of unpowered air vehicles now in operation in the United States, and students are strongly interested in his course.

The school is a non-profitmaking institution, in close cooperation with the government departments, with a board of trustees, faculty, and student body made up largely of former members of the service. The school is open to all persons willing to make the work a seriously practical and helpful one to those who take the courses. Books up to ten books prepared by government experts are given to each student free of charge.

The trustee course six months in length for resident students, while correspondence students may take a year to complete the course. The course is divided into three main parts. As a matter of general orientation and organization the entire is very valuable, and a number of students are taking it with an intention of flying, but for the purpose of getting a thorough understanding of mechanical principles and of aviation.

General Mitchell Goes Abroad

Brig. Gen. William Mitchell sailed from New York, Dec. 10 to make two similar trips to Europe. Accompanying him are Capt. Charles L. Howell and Aeromarine Engineer Alfred A. Verville. General Mitchell will visit Paris, Berlin, Rome, Milan, Italy, Coblenz, Berlin, Amsterdam, London and other places at which there are international aerobatic meets.

The trip is to be a general tour of inspection and pleasure, and it is expected that General Mitchell will secure such valuable information about commercial as well as military aviation. As the trustee of the aviation police of the United States before Congress, he will not take part until after the Washington Conference concludes its main deliberations, it is expected that General Mitchell will be able to give the latest information as to European air racing developments.

Gen. Arthur Young of Moultrieville, General Mitchell's sister, has an Aeromarine Flying boat to see him off. Leaving Friday noon, St. Louis, a quick stop was made in the Rathdrum, where after cooling the stop served twice a letter was dropped on board. This is the second time that the device for thus purpose has been used.

Forman Airplanes

In order to facilitate operations in this country, W. Wallace Kellie, American representative for H. & M. Forman, has incorporated under the firm name of Wallace Kellie Co. Inc.

The company continues to represent the Forman aircraft in the United States, and there will be no change in the Forman policy. Offices remain as previously on the Wallace Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

Stutz Makes Maiden Trip

The Stutz, the largest American airship ever flown, made her initial flight at Langley Field, Va., on Nov. 15, with successful results. The airship left her berth at 9 a.m. sailing smoothly out of the hangar under the direction of Chief Maneuvering Officer Captain Paul Shirley, Air Service, and through the excellent united efforts of the ground crew of 200 enlisted men. The task of making up each of the four sections of the airship took 10 minutes, and the airship was ready to take off on her maiden trip. In taking off she was fully inflated to a height of 400 ft. and gradually gained altitude as she headed for Chesapeake Bay. Most of her flight was made at a height of 200 meters. After the ship had circled the field several times and a complete inspection was made, the airship was brought down and taxied across the airfield for another flight. The airship was taxied across the airfield for another flight.

Shortly after 12 o'clock the first mishap of the flight occurred, when the propeller blades on the left forward motor were broken by a small stone thrown on the engine case, causing the propeller to fall into the propeller. Radiation from the damaged propeller caused a large hole in the left cover, which was repaired, and the propeller was made to the lower diagram of N. G. gas compartments.

With alert mind, in keeping with the responsibility of his position, Technical Sergeant Lee H. Harris, engineer for the left forward motor, immediately cut his switch and stopped the engine, thereby lessening the chance of fire which would have ensued if the engine had continued to run. The gas valve to the right motor was closed to prevent damage done. One valve failed in the compartment to reduce the pressure so that repairs would be made. By addition to Sergeant Harris, Major Sergeant William Fitch and C. E. Brinkman worked at repairing the leaking chamber, all three men being reached temporarily unconscious by the hydrocarbon gas they breathed. The ship remained at the airfield, although the propeller was still damaged. At 1:15 p.m. the airship left the field, after the thoroughly successful flight, which was made primarily for purposes of inspection.

A last flight will be made in the near future, at which time minor changes will have been made as the result of observations made during the inspection flight. Arrangements will be made to obtain a chart for the altitude of the airship in order to determine the effect of cold operation on the temperature throughout the first flight.

Radios, compass, both by telephone and telegraph, were maintained with the field throughout the trip, amateur operators also reporting that they listened in on both the big ship and heard of the arrival of the propeller blade which was still operating when the airship was taxied across the airfield in sight and long before she landed.

There are now more than the passengers and crew, were carried on the trip.

Coming Aeronomical Events

AMERICAN

- Jan. 9—Annual Banquet, Aero Club of America, 1924 Spring Show and Opening Meet, Curtis Field, Mineola, N. Y.
- Sept. 4—Detroit Auto Water Derby, Detroit. (Curtiss (seated) Marine Flying Trophy Competition.)
- Sept. 25—Detroit Auto Water Derby, Detroit. (Pilgrim Trophy) 500 ft. high.
- Sept. 26—First Annual Aeroplane Championship Meet. (In preparation.)

FOREIGN

- Aug. 3—Cupps-Jensen Schneider (Glasplint speed instant) 1923, held probably Youngstown.
- Oct. 1—George Henri Bentwich de la Macchia. (Airplane speed races), France.
- Aeroplane elimination trials, if required, to be held about Aug. 15, at Michel Field, S. L.

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